

City of Bloomington
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission
September 21, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Present: Beverly Calender-Anderson, David Hummons (Acting Chair), Sheldon Gellar, and Barbara Fuqua. **Staff:** Craig Brenner, Liaison, City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources Department. **Guests:** Bev Smith, Human Resources Representative, MCCSC; Jeong Bangsup; Dallas Easton, Student Coordinator and Tywan Martin, Outreach Specialist, Indiana University FASE Mentoring Program.

Approval of Minutes: July 20, 2005 minutes were read and approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was distributed and reviewed.

Old Business:

Fundraising

Letters have been mailed to potential donors. Indiana University and Ivy Tech have previously donated at least \$1,000 each, although last year Ivy Tech contributed \$1,500. Letters were mailed to Edwardo Rhodes of Indiana University's Office of Academic Support and Diversity, and Chancellor John Whitehart of Ivy Tech. David will follow up with Edwardo Rhodes and Beverly will follow up with Chancellor Whitehart. It was agreed that we need to recommit ourselves to the fundraising effort because no funds will be available from the Corporation for National and Community Service for "A Day On! Not a Day Off" volunteer service projects. Barbara will contact Wendy Bernstein, Fundraising Chair, so they can begin to make follow-up telephone calls.

November 10th Event

Three speakers are confirmed: Daniel Conkle, Sheldon Gellar and Valerie Grim. We're waiting to hear from Rev. Tom Ellsworth. Rev. Bruce Rose and Peggy Welch have declined.

2006 Celebration

David discussed the need for a theme for the January event. He suggested that we coalesce the November theme into the January event. Beverly reminded the Commission that discussions need to be broad in scope because this is a family event. We should strive not to exclude people of varying educational levels.

New Business:

Men of Color Leadership Conference (MOCLC) – Tywan Martin and Dallas Easton presented information on the conference which is scheduled for November 11-12. It is a student-driven conference initiated and supported by Indiana University. This will be the third MOCLC leadership conference. Details can be found in the conference brochure. The Commission has pledged its support and will advise whether we can sponsor a table.

MLK Logo – There was a question raised as to whether we have a logo for use by the MOCLC website. Craig reported that as a City Commission the MLK Commission is required to use the City's logo.

Web Page Design Contest – We had a discussion on the pros and cons of continuing this contest. Bev Smith, MCCSC, stated that follow up is a key issue in any contest. She agreed to have her office assist with

the distribution and follow up. It was also agreed that Commission would submit suggestions for a theme by September 30.

Commission on the Status of Black Males – This Commission will be publishing recommendations in about 30 days dealing with suspension and expulsion, school discipline and disparities for Blacks and marginalized groups. These are in addition to the recommendations being developed by the Forum on Race, Equity and Human Understanding in Education, a joint project of MCCSC and the Commission on the Status of Black Males. The forum was created as a result of findings of the Commission's Town Hall Meeting on Race, Criminal Justice and School Discipline in October of 2004.

The final draft of both sets of recommendations will be presented to John Maloy prior to publication. David recommended that the MLK Commission endorse these recommendations.

MLK Commission Donations – Beverly Calender-Anderson asked how the Commission will handle requests for funding support from organizations who have contacted other City sources for funding. Discussion was deferred so that this issue could be researched.

MOCLC has requested a donation. Since the Mayor's Office has funds and is supporting this event the Commission will not be making a separate donation. The NAACP request for a journal ad was approved in the amount of \$75 for a half-page ad.

MLK Commission Vacancy – Beverly Calender-Anderson can no longer serve as Chair because of her new position as Director of the City of Bloomington's Safe and Civil City Program in the Community and Family Resources Department. Her position on the Commission is a mayoral appointment. Bev Smith of MCCSC was proposed as a candidate. Bev will attend meetings when it fits her schedule.

David Hummons will fill the position of interim Chair. He does not want to serve as Chair because he is assuming chairmanship of the Commission on the Status of Black Males.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19th at 4:00 pm in the McCloskey Conference Room #135.

Submitted by Barbara Fuqua